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All Men are Created Equal.--Declaration of Independence.

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DEMANDS OF FREEMEN.

We demand, first and foremost, the instant repeal of
the Fugitive Slave Bill.

We demand the Abolition of Slavery in the District of
Columbia.

We demand the exercise by Congress, in all Territories,
of its time honored power to prohibit Slavery.

We demand of Congress to refuse to receive into the
Union, any new Slave State.

We demand the Abolition of the domestic slave trade,
as far as it can be constitutionally reached; but particu-
larly on the high seas under the National Flag.

And, generally, we demand from the Federal Govern-
ment the exercise of all its constitutional power to re-
lieve itself from the responsibility for Slavery.

And yet one thing further must be done--
The Slave Power must be overturned; so that the Fed-
eral Government may be put openly, actively, and per-
petually on the side of Freedom.

Portland Inquirer.

SPEECH

HON. ROBERT RANTOUL, JR.,

At the Democratic Convention in Lynn.

APRIL 3, 1851.

Phonographic Report by Dr. Stone.

MR. PRESIDENT--The Convention which I now have the honor to address, was called, as I suppose, at my suggestion. The reason why I desired of the District Committee of this district that the Democratic voters of this district should be called together, and that I might have an opportunity to address them, was one which I think will meet the approbation of you all. It was, that since the period when I was first nominated to represent this district in Congress, a very material change has taken place in the condition of affairs. One change was this. I had the honor to be nominated for Congress again and again, when I supposed there were very few persons who believed there was any probability of my election. A law has now been passed which makes it certain that some person must be elected to represent this district in Congress. It is called the Plurality Law. Therefore, as we now know that a party to pass through trials without end, but either at the election on Monday next, or on the succeeding one, some person will be elected, it therefore becomes a different question as to what ought to be done.

There has also been a change with regard to other great questions. The great question of slavery has now assumed a particular shape, concerning which it is now necessary to declare an opinion. So long as that question was floating in uncertainty, so long as it was connected with subjects which were changing day by day, it might not be desirable that a public man should state his opinions. But at last this question has assumed a definite shape. It has presented a distinct issue, an issue reaching back to fundamental principles. And I did in my conscience suppose, that the Democratic voters would desire to hear from me, before they should deposit their votes at the election of Monday next.

Supposing that all Democratic voters desired to be acquainted with the views of their candidate, one of two courses was necessary to be adopted; either in writing to present my views to the citizens of this district, or to invite the Democratic voters to come together and meet me face to face. I have preferred the latter, because I can speak more freely than I can write, (though that is a personal consideration,) and because, if I address my fellow citizens here, those who do not wish to hear me, can stay away.

I am now ready to proceed to make an exact statement of my opinions--a statement so unequivocal that there shall be no question about it. I intend to make a distinct and unequivocal definition of my ideas of what seems to be the most important issue now before the country. [Cheers.] And when I have done so, for I want to lay down a distinct proposition upon this subject, I shall then say to my friends of the Democratic party, who are here present, Gentlemen, you have supported me for many years, and I have a good many trials. It has come to me very lately that there are some persons who pretend to belong to the Democratic party who would not be satisfied if I made such declarations as I now intend to make. I desire that if there be such gentlemen present they may declare their purposes and if they constitute a majority of the Democratic party that they may substitute some other candidate in my stead. If the Democratic party here present, after having heard the views which I shall express on this subject, shall choose to make any other arrangement than the present, with regard to the Congressional election, either for the reason that I have suggested or for any other reason, for any grounds I care not what, then I shall only have to thank them for past favors and go into the battle as a private soldier. [Applause.]

In explaining our ideas before the people, it seems to have become quite the fashion of late to go back so far as to swear fealty to the Constitution and the Union. I will follow that fashion. I am attached and as devotedly attached as any other man, to the Union of these States, and to the Constitution of our Government. I believe the Union to be at the bottom of almost all the other political blessings that we enjoy. I believe the Constitution to be--not perfect, as nothing professedly made by human hands is perfect--but as nearly and as reasonably perfect as could have been expected at the time it was made now, and even better than if it were to make it over again.

But when I say that I admire and love both the Union and the Constitution, it is not that of which they secure to us the greatest good, I might almost say, it is the greatest of our political blessings, because it secures to us what was the object of these States, and to the Constitution of our Government. I believe the Union to be at the bottom of almost all the other political blessings that we enjoy. I believe the Constitution to be--not perfect, as nothing professedly made by human hands is perfect--but as nearly and as reasonably perfect as could have been expected at the time it was made now, and even better than if it were to make it over again.

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And what is that? Liberty! And if it were not for that, the Union would be valueless, and the Constitution would not be worth the paper upon which it is written. [Hear! Hear!]

Why do we value the Union? Because it secures our national independence and the independence of the several States; because without it there would exist a number of petty States, which would be, as they are in Europe, exposed to perpetual wars with each other and with their neighbors. We should be obliged to keep up a standing army, and should be quarrelling with each other, as the petty German States have done for ages.

With all that, your national independence would be, if preserved, continually in hazard, but most probably could not even be preserved. And out of that condition of things would grow most probably a contest of small States with great ones, and the independence of the weaker ones would be sacrificed, while the greater ones would rule over them. Against all that the Union guarantees to us independence. What is independence? It is the power to govern our own despotic despots on earth which were independent nations? Our independence is valuable because it preserves our liberty; and the Union is great and glorious because it preserves our independence and thereby our liberty. [Prolonged applause.]

It is because I believe all this, that I love the Union and the Constitution. And if I did not do this, I should go back to my pilgrim ancestors and take a lesson from them. When they came out from the old world, and left their country which they loved, and the constitution of Great Britain which they loved, for they expressed their love for it in all their writings, speeches and deeds, though they loved their country and its constitution, they loved something else more than they loved their country. They loved liberty more. *Patrici eam, arrior libertas!* Though dear my country, dearer liberty! [Applause.] Liberty is above the Union, above the Constitution, and above all the works of man.

THE PRESIDENT--That is the higher law. MR. RANTOUL--These ideas are not at all new with me. They are not taken up by me for my present position of public affairs. I see before me quite a number of gentlemen who were present 15 years ago, when I had occasion to discuss the value of the Federal Union. I then took the same view of the value of the Union and the Constitution that I take now. I valued them now, because of their great purpose. So long as they accomplish that purpose, so long are they the highest political blessings. And if they ever cease in the providence of God to accomplish the great purpose, they become worthless, they may become even a curse.

Washington in his great legacy of practical wisdom, the farewell address, held the same view of the relations in which the Union, the Constitution and the great principle of liberty stand to each other. It is because of our love of liberty that we do love and ought to love the Union and the Constitution. These things have been taken into an undoubting heart. It is not any new doctrine that sets up the means above the end and says that the parchment is the inestimable treasure, and that the object for which that Constitution was made is to be forgotten; that the object which our fathers went through a seven years' war to accomplish, is to be neglected--it is no such new fangled doctrine that I maintain. I contend that the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Union of the United States are valuable only as long as the purpose of them is valuable. But that these instruments are to be talked of as if they were intrinsically holy, and that the purpose which is in the souls of those that made them as it should be in our souls to-day, is not to be spoken of without incurring the charge of fanaticism or abolitionism--I go for no such new fangled doctrine.

Liberty is the object for which governments are founded; and that government is best administered where the spirit of liberty is best preserved. [Cheers.] If then this be the great object of the Union and the Constitution, and that which makes the Union and the Constitution dear, how is the Constitution to be interpreted? There have been two great schools of politics in this country since the foundation of our government. To one of these schools I have always belonged. I think the maxims of that school essential to our duration. It is not the expediency of party policy which seems to be involved. Two great fundamental principles as to how the Constitution is to be interpreted are involved. It is a question on which parties are now divided and on which they always will divide till the end of time.

Let me look at the question. The Constitution of the United States creates a government of limited powers. Are they to be held strictly to the limitation of that instrument? or are they to have a system of loose construction which will transcend those powers?

Now I hold and have always held, that the United States instrument is to be strictly construed, that the Constitution is the letter of attorney by which the members of Congress are authorized to act, and that they are empowered to do nothing which it does not authorize them to do. That is my doctrine, and it is Democratic doctrine. I ask of Democrats some application of that doctrine. It is the doctrine on which the government stands, that the constitution of the United States is to be strictly construed. Nothing is to be established by means of unnatural inferences. Was that the doctrine of those who made the constitution of the United States?

The Constitution of Massachusetts says that the General Court shall make all laws which are for the benefit of the people which are not forbidden in that instrument. It says the legislature shall not take away the trial by jury; it shall not abolish the habeas corpus. It forbids that which shall not be done. All else may be done by the Legislature. That is the Constitution of Massachusetts.

The Constitution of the United States, on the other hand, says, this thing you may do; that thing you may do; the other thing you may do; and there it stops. To that the government of the United States is to be strictly held. To prevent any misapprehension on that subject, let me say that it was well known that there was one school of politicians who considered that safety only consisted in following the example of their predecessors, that is, in following the example of Great Britain; who said that we must have a strong government or we should be in the condition of the Germans, the Italians, and the Greeks, for a long series of years. And that they seemed to be in their favor.

I do not wonder at their opinions. They said, "All these governments have failed be-

cause the governments were not strong enough. You must not make the government too weak." And perhaps our government would not have held together if the people had not been more intelligent than those of the German States, or if they had been surrounded by strong nations at war with them. If we had had a nation in Canada as strong as Great Britain, and one in Mexico as strong as Great Britain, and should have been at war with them, perhaps our government would not have stood. It was not at that time to be expected that they should know how the thing would turn out, because it had never been written in history. They had seen no great successful republican government. But it is our own fault if we are not wiser by experience. I say that the school of politicians who thought the government was not strong enough did not intend to have a strict construction.

A gentleman once remarked to Alexander Hamilton, who was one of that school, that he thought the Constitution was pretty good instrument. "It depends," replied he, "upon how you construe it." He was in favor of modelling our government anew after the English form. He thought the Minister of State should step into our House of Representatives as the Premier of England enters the House of Commons, and should there explain the intentions of the government and relations of other countries to our own. Then he wanted a public debt, because Great Britain had a debt. He wanted a Bank as Great Britain had a bank. And so on other points, he wanted the government as strong as it could be made. It is my opinion that he was honest in that view.

There was another party who took the opposite view. They said, it is true that confederations have broken to pieces; but there have also been many governments which have progressed until they became despotic. They held down the principle that government should not be one man's wealth beyond the powers given to them. When the Constitution came up for adoption, many States refused to adopt it, unless there was strong probability that an amendment would be adopted. That amendment was subsequently adopted, and is now in my hands. It is the 10th article of the amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

The powers not given are reserved to the States or to the people. When you ask whether a bill be constitutional or not, the first thing to be done is to look into the Constitution, and find the express grant thereof. If it is not there, it is reserved to the States or to the people. That is the Democratic doctrine. [Applause.]

Now was that Massachusetts doctrine? Most assuredly it was. Massachusetts had a good deal of democracy in her in early times. When old Sam Adams drafted this bill of rights, there was a good deal of democracy in him and a good deal in the people. Here is the Bill of Rights drawn up in 1780, showing what they thought then.

ART. IV. "The people of this Commonwealth have the exclusive right of governing themselves as a free, sovereign and independent State; and do forever hereafter shall exercise and enjoy every power, jurisdiction and right which is not or may not hereafter be by them expressly delegated to the United States of America in Congress assembled."

What do they mean by "expressly delegated to the United States?" They say this in so many words in language that cannot be mistaken. This is what they meant. They said, "The government of the United States should not assume any power which the States had not expressly delegated to it. And well would it have been if that principle of the majority of the States of the Union had always been adhered to; it would have saved us a vast deal of trouble."

I belong, then, to that school which hold that the Constitution should be strictly construed, and its meaning strictly adhered to. And when I say this I have the same time a great veneration for all the compromises of the Constitution. We hear much of them. What are they? I sometimes hear people talk of the compromises of the Constitution in such a way that I think they would be much puzzled if they were to be asked what they are. There were compromises, the non-adoption of which would have prevented the Constitution itself from being adopted. The compromise of effecting a Union went home in despair of effecting a Union which would be acceptable to the people. And it was after they had gone, that certain compromises were adopted which finally insured the acceptance of that instrument. What were they?

In many confederacies, ancient and modern, all the States entering into the combination had an equal number of votes. The small States insisted that that was the right way. They said, we shall be swallowed up by the larger States unless we can vote by States as was done in Congress under the Confederation. I suppose it is well known to you that the Convention of States was called together for the purpose of amending the old Articles of Confederation. They amended, however, that they would not bear amendment. A faithful attempt was made to make a new instrument that was to repair the old one. In the old Confederation the States were all equal. Delaware had as large a vote as New York. Luther Martin, who led off this opposition, has left an account of it and of his own action. The small States refused to come in to the support of a combination unless they could have an equal vote. And the Convention came very near breaking up in despair of ever settling that distracting question. How did they finally settle? By making this compromise: saying that in one branch the people should be represented according to population, and in the other the States should be equally represented. New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Massachusetts said to the small States, You shall be represented in the one branch according to population; and we will consent to be represented in the other branch by States. The large States were discontented with the equal representation in the Senate. The small States were discontented with the great amount of power which the large States had in the lower house. This was then the first compromise. It was the great one, because this difficulty came nearer shipwrecking the whole government than any other, and because it was the most important. There was another compromise, and it, too, was important. The immediate occasion of the formation of this government grew out of difficulties of navigation chiefly in Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Bay. Great difficulties arose on account of the different commercial arrangements which

were entered into by the several States. For instance, if Maryland laid duties, and Rhode Island did not, goods would be introduced, duty free, into Rhode Island, and smuggled over the line. Ten thousand difficulties were growing up between the different States on this account, and particularly between Virginia and Maryland, concerning the navigation of Delaware Bay on the one hand, and the Chesapeake Bay on the other. These difficulties led to the calling of a convention for the purpose of amending the articles of confederation. It was ascertained that this could not be done. But finally, a new attempt was made, which resulted in the formation of this Constitution. The attempt to regulate commerce was in fact what led to the formation of this Constitution. We were obliged to make a compromise which we have almost forgotten.

There were some states which were agricultural States, raising tobacco and rice principally, as the cultivation of cotton was not then very extensive. They were planting States. Then there were also certain States which it was then foreseen would be navigating and manufacturing States. The commerce existed then in some measure, but the manufacturing did not to any great extent. Now the agriculturists said, If we allow Congress to regulate commerce, they will put duties on exports, and thereby shut off all the sale of our products. They did not then think that the duties on imports would produce the same effect. They did not think at that time, as seems to be now a favorite notion with some, that the greater the duty the better for them and for the people, under the plan that the government would furnish the greater protection to the industry. Neither thinking of that or of the effect which would be produced by the taxation of imports, they insisted that Congress should put duties on imports alone. The revenue on the importation of goods was of great value to New York and Massachusetts. They gave up that, and this bargain was made, the agricultural States on the one hand, and the manufacturing States on the other, in which they agreed that exports should not be taxed.

Then came another compromise. They had not then thought that taxation on all the imported goods was to be regarded as a blessing. Therefore they had never anticipated that the revenue necessary for the purpose of carrying on the government would be obtained on the imports. So strong was the feeling against raising a large revenue from imports, that when Hamilton made a report proposing five per cent. duties on some imports, he had to argue at great length to the effect that though it was a terrible thing, we should submit to it because it was necessary in order to obtain funds for the government. The taxes on imports, it was not supposed, would ever be so high as to defray the expenses of government. On the contrary, they expected that the expenses of government would be defrayed by direct taxation. Then it became an important question. How shall taxation be apportioned among the people? "Why," said the men at the North, "according to population; and let everybody, white or black, be enumerated. No tax on slaves. For here are our southern slaves, who do not produce as much as your laborers. We ought not to be taxed according to population." And not only was there a compromise made on this subject, but they were ready to have their representation of two-fifths of their slaves, which was not much thought of at the time, inasmuch as they obtained as a recompense what was esteemed a great boon, namely, the taxation, also in proportion to their numbers, of the two-fifths of their slaves. This was a very much desired at the South and opposed at the North. And the South conquered. We now talk about taking off the whole of their slave representation. I do not know but they would have been glad to have had the whole removed, if they could by that means have avoided taxation therefor. That was the point of view from which they then looked upon it. It was, as you perceive, then viewed very differently from what it now is.

In that compromise there was no reference whatever made to a slave. It was simply a certain mode of ascertaining taxation and representation. It was decided, that to certain persons, who were described, they should add three-fifths of all other persons, to obtain the basis for representation and direct taxation. The proposition was that phraseology was adopted, that there existed a sort of secret dislike of the institution of slavery [applause]; a dislike extending to Southern men as well as to Northern men. Southern men aided in the formation of this Constitution, and in the adoption of this article. Southern men felt a sort of unpleasant sensation at the sound of that word slave, and of that other word, slavery, and yet, I fancy, the kind of producing them into a document which was to live forever. They contrived to express their idea, therefore, without mentioning those terms. It cannot be said that this was any compromise on the subject of slavery. It was a compromise on the subject of taxation. They put in something similar on the subject of representation. There comes their other compromise which is important. I have already alluded to it. That which I have already referred to, and that which I shall mention, are important. The remaining compromise is this:

ART. I. Sec. 9. "The migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year 1808."

Those who made the Constitution said that this importation should go on in such States as chose to carry it on for twenty years, and that after that time the federal power may be exerted, and the slave trade shall be stopped. Accordingly, when that period arrived, it was declared piracy. At the moment that the Constitution was adopted, Congress to act, that moment, was not an hour. The slave trade was forever prohibited. That is the last of the important compromises.

Now when people talk about adhering to the compromises of the Constitution, referring thereby to certain other things which are alluded to in the Constitution, I should like to have them define what they mean. These which I have mentioned, it is necessary to adhere to.

Therefore, I go on to declare as to certain other clauses which are not compromises, which are not the agreement of two parties in which each gives way a little for the sake of that which it esteems a greater good, that those other clauses are stipulations which are to be construed. And I propose now to construe them.

I come to the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States. In that I find all

that is found with regard to the delivery of fugitive slaves. And I intend to ask what does that language mean? Construe it by the same rules according to which the other clauses are construed. In the first place, the first section of the fourth article of the Constitution of the United States says, "Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other State." Every State shall give full faith and credit to the public records of every other State. Does this grant power to anybody? I see in the words that follow that the makers of the Constitution thought on that subject. I see that they thought it did not grant the power to Congress, because they add language giving the power. What I have read is no grant of power to Congress. It is a prohibition to the States. It says, You shall not deny your belief in the truth of the public records of your sister States. If a court in South Carolina says a certain thing you are to give full faith to it. That does not say that Congress shall do anything about it. And the people of the United States did not understand that Congress had the power. The makers of the Constitution did not understand that Congress had the power to extract which I have read that Congress had any power over the subject. And for this reason, that the clause of the section gives to Congress the power which would have been needed had the preceding language conferred it. "And the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof." What need was there of adding this latter clause, if the first was a grant of power? You may read this Constitution through, and you will not find any words wasted. Every word means something. It was put there because it was necessary, and because the meaning would not have been clear without it. I say that that first clause did not contain a grant of power; and the men who put it there knew it. They first say that faith shall be given; and then bestow on Congress the power in relation thereto. The powers not delegated to Congress are reserved to the States. That power has been reserved to the States if not given to Congress in the last clause of this section. Can language make that clearer. I go to the next section.

Sec. 2. "The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States."

Very well; a colored man in Massachusetts goes out from our ports, and goes into one of the harbors of South Carolina. They don't give him the immunities of the citizen of the State. Does any Southern man contend that Congress has the power to enforce that section? No. There is no power granted there. There is a declaration of a principle, but it does not say that Congress shall possess the power to enforce it. Therefore they say that South Carolina may make what laws she pleases, and the United States government can do nothing to prevent it. They adopt one rule for that clause, and another rule for that clause, in the same section. I say that Congress has the power to enforce action in connection with this clause, in the harbor of Charleston. No! I choose strict construction on all these clauses. I adopt no rule of strict construction in one and a loose one in another.

The next clause is as follows: "A person charged in any State with treason, felony or any other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall, on demand of the Executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime." Under that clause no serious difficulty has arisen. The States have given up criminals, and no State has objected to it. Then comes the next clause: "No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall in consequence of any law or regulation of the latter State, be discharged from such service or labor."

To whom is that directed? To the States or to Congress? To the States? It says, "no person shall be discharged by any law or regulation of the States." That is a regulation addressed to the States, and not to the Union. And then it goes on to say, "but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

In the case of a person charged with crime, the rule is that he shall be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime. Now if the first part of this section is addressed to the States, then to whom is the subsequent clause addressed? For it does not go on to say Congress shall make the laws, but it says you shall deliver up. How can any person contend that one is addressed to States and the other to Congress?

One clause says they shall not make laws, and the next that they shall deliver up. I say that that last clause is as clearly addressed to the States as the first. And then I go back to the old rule laid down by our fathers, written by Samuel Adams in the bill of Rights of Massachusetts, in which he says, "every power, jurisdiction and right shall remain with the people, unless specially delegated to Congress." Have the powers been delegated? "No! No!"

There is not, then, in this clause, a delegation of power to the United States government to pass any law about fugitives from labor. There is a direction that certain things shall be done, and that certain other things shall not be done. And that is directed to the States. A fugitive shall not, by any law or regulation of that State, be discharged. That is addressed to the State. I come, then, to the conclusion to which the present head of the State department came, and which he announced again as late as March 7, 1850. I come to the conclusion that this section of the Constitution was addressed to the States. I quote Mr. Webster's opinion for this reason, that he has always gone rather further in favor of increasing the power of the government than the Democratic party. Mr. Webster has gone further than we have. He has allowed a National Bank to be constitutional. I might give other cases. His mind is of such a nature that it has a tendency to extend the powers of the United States government a great deal further than the Democratic party have thought it right. I am not criticising his opinions in favor of enlarging the powers of the government. He has been a Federalist all his life, belonging to a party who have been inclined to give great power to the United States government. It is not at all unlikely that if the power had existed in the Constitution, he would have found it. He says particularly that he thought it was directed to the States, and not to the general government.

The United States Supreme Court have made a decision to the contrary. This is a fact which stares us full in the face. In the case of Priggs as the State of Pennsylvania.

they decided that the States have no right to legislate for the carrying into effect of this section, but that the power thereof lies in Congress. Perhaps it would not be proper for me, considering my profession as a lawyer, to argue the case against them, but I am not satisfied with the decision, or their reasons for it. And I believe it was a mistake. I believe, too, that it was a mistake, the whole consequences of which will not be seen for many years. I think they should have taken the ground the Democratic party must take, (for they cannot come to any other conclusion,) and which Daniel Webster tells us was his opinion, that the language of this clause of the Constitution was addressed to the States. [Applause.]

Why, my friends, two sets of dangers have always threatened this government in the view of the people; one party has feared that it might fall to pieces; the other that it might become a strong. Which have we now most reason to apprehend? Is there any danger that the government will prove too weak? Originally, one or the other they could not raise money enough to defray the expenses of the government. They did not think of obtaining a revenue by the taxation of imports to such an extent as to raise thirty or forty millions of dollars. They thought of one million, one and a half or two millions of dollars. Alexander Hamilton said that the government could not be carried by Congress, as far as Washington, for the purpose of participating in the affairs of government. Now it is not difficult to find men of the first order of talents to come even from California, if their mileage is paid. [Laughter.]

The danger that general government could not enlist powerful men; that it could not raise money enough for its expenses, has disappeared in smoke and mist, and we can hardly conceive of such dangers.

But the contrary danger is more and more a reality. There may be a continual accumulation of power by the general government. There may be such an increasing of taxation as to crush the community. There may be a large standing army. Nobody thinks of any objection to adding a million, or five million of dollars annually for the support of the army or navy. But add a few thousand dollars to the pay of the Judges of the United States, and there will be a great outcry about the lavish expenditure of the government.

I say the constant increase of power of the general government does seriously affect the interests of the community. If that be so, how is it to be cured? How is it to be prevented? For prevention is easier than cure. It is to be prevented by the strict construction of the Constitution. And this becomes every hour more necessary, not only because it will prevent the enlargement of the power of the government, but also in consequence of the great extent of territory.

If the government extended over New England only, there is a homogeneous people which might be easily managed. But when we come to have States like New England, States like the cotton and planting States of the South and West, with new and distant States like California, containing diverse habits, religions, and so much diversity in all those things which make a people one people, then, it is important that the sphere of our general government should not be extended into all sorts of matters. It should be restricted to its proper subjects--for instance, the regulation of foreign commerce! That is necessarily done by the general government. I am far carrying it a little further than some people. Knowing that it was the intent of the framers of the Constitution to carry it as far as the necessity of carrying it as far as that necessarily demands.

And when the general government decided that this power could be exercised for the construction of light-houses, the construction of piers, and for the removal of obstructions in the harbors of our eastern ports, and when I saw all that, I thought that it was a legitimate exercise of power. And I thought the same principles could be carried into the West just as well as on the Atlantic coast. If that power will authorize the removal of obstructions in the harbors of our eastern ports, it will authorize the removal of obstructions in the waters of the Mississippi. If it will authorize expenditures at Cape Ann, it will also authorize them in Lake Michigan. Give the West fair play. Let the government do what must be done. And then carry the principle out so as to make it fair and equal for all sections of the country. [Cheers.] But having done that I would not like the general government to go into any other exercise of power which is not delegated to it. Since the decision of the case of Priggs, the States have thought they were not responsible for what was done. They have therefore in some cases refused the use of their jails, and the assistance of their officers, for the recapture of fugitive slaves. The United States government now go on as legislators. I might continue and show all the evil resulting from that decision. I prefer to take this measure, and in order to illustrate the effect of it. A law which is made by a State is likely to be suited to what is to be done. The State of Massachusetts knows what her people can bear and what they cannot bear. But if a law is to be made contrary to the sentiments of any State it will be impracticable to carry it out in that State.

Now, does that apply to the question of Slavery? Just in that way! The retaking of fugitive slaves is to be carried out in order where in a free State. Slaves do not when they escape, stop in a Slave State. If fugitives are to be returned from any place, it is from a Free State. When Congress makes a law on the subject it makes it against the very inmost sentiments of the souls of the people of the free States. [Shame!]

Is there any possibility of its exercise to the perpetration of the crime of kidnapping out this law. I propose to perpetuate the Union by checking the power of the General Government. [Loud cheers.]

But we are told that these are measures of conciliation--measures of peace. Enforce this law, and we shall have peace and quiet, it is said. Now! Is one-third of the white people of the United States to dictate to the other two-thirds, and call their submission peace? I admit that these slave interests may set one part of the country against the other. It may so happen that difficulties will take place in either case. But is it not just as likely to cause difficulty when two-thirds of the whole people of the country are irritated as when only one-third are irritated? [Applause.] I see no way of getting out of this difficulty so straight-forward, so sure of its results, as that which stares us full in the face. In the case of Priggs as the State of Pennsylvania.

States Government have nothing to do with this matter. [Cheering.]

But Sir, and gentlemen, as this subject is one of great interest, and as the manner in which I have discussed it is not the manner in which it has been most commonly discussed, allow me to go one step further. If it be granted, which I do not grant at all--if it be granted that the United States Government has the right to make, such a law, let us inquire whether it is a matter of great consequence. A man charged with crime shall on demand be delivered up. That is the law. What have you to ascertain before you give him up? Simply that he is charged! That means that he is charged by some responsible person, on what a lawyer would call good and probable cause.

Where shall he be tried? Where is he charged? It is a privilege to the party charged with crime that he shall be tried where the crime was committed. This is inserted for the benefit of the person charged with crime. So that if a person be charged with crime, let him go back to the place where the deed was committed, for there he can most easily prove his innocence. This is based on a very ancient principle of the English common law.

The question to be decided is, is the man charged? Does a responsible man who would be convicted of perjury if it were not true, swear that he committed the crime? If so, we will take his oath, and send the accused man back. He does not have his trial where he is found, but only a preliminary trial there. The preliminary inquiry in such a case may be accomplished by a summary process. It is not necessary to have a jury in Massachusetts to try a man who has committed a murder in New York. You could not conveniently give him a full and full trial here. You therefore go through a summary process to determine whether it is necessary to send this man back.

I go next to the succeeding clause. I know that the men who made this Constitution knew what they were about, and did not put a single clause here, or a single word there, without meaning. There is no book in the English language, of which the construction is so plain, as the Constitution of the United States. If a man comes to it with a sincere and honest heart, and will take the trouble to compare one portion with another, he cannot fail to come to a right conclusion.

But the person held to service or labor "shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." The party who hold him must prove that the service or labor is due and that he was held. How is this to be done? Is it to be done by a summary process? Did any man ever hear of such a thing except in relation to Slavery? [Hear! Hear!]

Did any man ever hear that any question of liberty or property was disposed of by means of a summary process? Except in relation to this subject of Slavery?

We are told that we should submit. Now I do not go to a Southern State to tell them what they shall do or what they shall not do. Let them provide for their own institutions as they please, but let them not come here and tell me that a man shall not have a trial by jury, and that he shall not only have a jury trial here, but perhaps no where else, I do not admit any such doctrine here.

Why, is it not quite clear how this question shall be decided, whether he is held to service or not? What is the principle of the Constitution of the United States on that subject? For there is a principle laid down here. There is very little left out that ought to be in. There is laid down here the rule that no man shall "be deprived of his life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." That is in the 5th article of the amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

Now I take it, if you seize a colored man, or you may seize a white man under the operation of this law--if you seize any man in Massachusetts under this fugitive slave law, the man seized, shall be deprived of his liberty. You will say, he is granted that he is a slave. All presumptions of law are in favor of liberty. It is a maxim

THE WAY UNCLE DAVID'S FAMILY MAKE PRESENTS.

BY H. E. B.

'Did you ever know such a storm?' exclaimed Aunt Morris, as she drew nearer the hearth and added a fresh stick to the large heap of glowing embers.

'A regular North-Easter,' responded Uncle David, as he laid aside his paper, and addressing a tall lad in the corner, who was bending over a knotty problem in Algebra, 'Did you leave all right in the barn, Rufus?'

'All right, father,' replied Rufus, 'I fed the oxen and cows, gave the pig some fresh straw, and tied a warm blanket over old Grey.'

'I hope there is no poor traveller exposed to this terrible blast,' sighed, Cousin Mary, as she laid down her knitting, walked to the window and attempted to peer through the darkness.

'Do you think we can go to school tomorrow, mother?' asked little Tom, who was showing Lucy how to draw mysterious forms of men and things upon his slate.

'Say yes, do, ma,' added Lucy, 'or Tommy and I will lose our places in the class.'

'Never mind about school to-night, we can tell better in the morning,' answered Aunt Morris, 'tis time for little folks to be in bed'; whereupon Aunt Morris arose, lighted another lamp, and requested Tommy and Lucy to follow.

'The children knew there was no appeal from the decision of their mother, so they cheerfully put away slate and pencil, and obeyed her summons.'

'Well, Laura,' said uncle David, who had not yet resumed his paper, 'what is your opinion of our country storms? I do the wind ever find its way among the thickly packed houses of your city streets?'

'I have hardly been here long enough to judge of your storms, uncle David, for I arrived only last night you know, but if this is a fair specimen I should not wish to be favored with one every week. I have heard the blast shriek fearfully in S., but I never knew such a gale as this.'

'Very like, my child, for I have lived nearly half a century and seldom seen it equalled. We do not know how to prize our common blessings, a comfortable shelter and good fire, only when the elements are raging as they are to-night.'

'I have often thought, uncle David, that if we were not reminded of our dependence upon an omnipotent Being, by such demonstrations of His power as this, we should grow even more self-reliant and forgetful than we are now.'

'Without doubt,' replied uncle David, 'such fearful demonstrations of power are necessary to teach us submission to the Divine Will.'

The serious turn of our conversation was broken by the entrance of Aunt Morris, bearing a tray of tempting apples, and I could hardly tell which I enjoyed more, the delicious fruit, or uncle David's pleasant reminiscences of by-gone days.

But at last conversation lagged, the fire burned low, the lamps grew dim, and one after another of the family circle had retired, until cousin Mary and myself were the sole occupants of the large old-fashioned parlor.

'And so, Mary, I am really sitting by the same hearth, and under the same roof, that sheltered my dear mother in her early days?'

'The very same, Laura, the old farmhouse has undergone but little change since our parents were young. It may have been repainted, and perhaps the shade of the old elms and apple trees is a trifle broader, but essentially 'tis unaltered. Father will never hear a word about modernizing it, and for my own part, I should feel very sorry to save any changes made, but brother James says it looks so shabby, that he feels quite ashamed to bring his college friends down to spend vacations. But the clock is striking twelve, Laura, had we not better go to bed?'

'Certainly, I did not think it was so late, I was so deeply interested in Uncle David's stories.'

'Father loves to talk about old times,' said Mary, as she wheeled back the sofa and raked up the coals.

Perhaps I ought to give my readers a description of the personal appearance of each member of Uncle David's household; but if I attempt, I am sure I shall give them a very meagre idea of the truth and goodness, which made each countenance look so beautiful to myself.

Uncle David Morris, a staunch republican and jealous defender of Puritanical customs, was my mother's only brother, and occupied the old homestead of their parents.

The toil and exposure of half a century had failed to bend his form, silver his hair, or dim his eye. His honest, open countenance, was a faithful mirror of the unblemished integrity of his soul. Aunt Morris was a pattern house-keeper, a devoted wife, and a faithful, affectionate mother. Her manners were gentle and dignified, and Mary, her eldest daughter, inherited all the amiable traits of her mother's character, with a trifle more of wit and humor in her composition.

Mary was not handsome, although she had a pair of bewitchingly dark, laughing eyes; neither was she what city ladies would call accomplished, for she had never mingled in genteel society, as fashionable understand the term, but she had a cultivated, well-balanced intellect, could sing and play her father's favorite pieces of church music, and was wonderfully skillful in the mysterious charm of house-keeping.

Rufus, next in age to Mary, was an ambitious, high-spirited lad of sixteen, whom Uncle David had tried in vain to make a practical farmer, and had given up the idea, declaring that Rufus would make a Senator or President, and must be sent to college. Tommy and Lucy were twins, the youngest, and of course petted and indulged by every other member of the family, but they were playful, affectionate little rogues, and I could not help loving them.

No signs of the terrible storm, which shook our dwelling so fearfully the evening before, were visible on the bright, cold, New Year's morning which succeeded, unless we except the glittering coat of frozen sleet, which enshrouded every limb and twig of the trees and shrubs. There had fallen several inches of snow during the first of the storm, and this had been followed by sleet and rain, which prevented the snow from drifting during the gale. It was a busy day, at Uncle David's, for several guests were expected in the evening, and Aunt Morris and Mary were not only su-

kitchens, but were finishing garments and packing baskets, whose contents were to make glad the hearts of their unfortunate neighbors. There was a nice woolen wrapper for Widow Brown, to shield her rheumatic limbs from the piercing winds, which made a plaything of her miserable cottage, and some comfortable garments for her half-clad children, with a stout pair of shoes for them all, from Uncle David.

'Is this the only kind of presents that you make, Cousin Mary?' I asked, as I contemplated the homely, but useful collection of articles.

'We seldom make presents to persons who do not need our bounty,' she replied, 'and I am quite sure that Widow Brown's family and poor lame Mr. Jones and his sick wife, will derive more real happiness from these substantial, domestic comforts, than will the recipients of those useless gewgaws, given by the fashionable world, which are doubtless thrown aside after receiving the common place tribute of admiration, or perhaps serve to ornament an overladen centre-table and chimney-piece.'

I could not doubt the truth of Mary's theory, and I should not dare to say that I did not cherish a sort of pharisaical feeling as I diligently plied my needle in finishing Widow Brown's wrapper, thinking that I too could add a drop to the bucket of joy, which would gladden the Widow's heart.

Late in the afternoon Uncle David harnessed old Grey and took Mary and myself with him to assist in scattering these 'traps for the catching of sunbeams.'

How the widow's children danced for joy, as they saw the new shoes, but the tears rolled fastly down the widow's cheek, when Uncle David said something in a low voice about a barrel of flour and load of wood.

We called next upon Mr. Jones, an honest laborer, who had broken a limb some months before and was still unable to resume his work. When I saw the deep emotion and fervent gratitude of Mr. Jones and heard the warm blessings of his sick wife, I felt for the first time that it was indeed 'more blessed to give than to receive.'

Old Mistress Lane, who had taught mischievous rogues their abys in the old brown school-house on grave-yard hill, through many a long summer, but now, when the winter of life had blighted her with its frosts, palsy her limbs and rendering her unfit for service, was obliged to live alone in an old crazy-tenement back of the mill—poor, neglected Mistress Lane had been remembered by Uncle David.

'Blessings on your kind soul, David Morris,' exclaimed the old lady, as she triumphantly mounted the new spectacles Uncle David had given her, upon their natural resting place; 'blessings on you for remembering your old school-dame. I never expected to read God's blessed Book with my dim, old eyes again, but now I see the faded print as plain as day.'

'What is this nice, woolen shawl for me too? Indeed, David Morris, you are too kind, I do not deserve so many blessings.'

'Leave me to judge of that, Mistress Lane,' replied Uncle David, 'I am very glad that I can make some remuneration to one who dealt so kindly and patiently with me when young.'

Uncle David had not forgotten his worthy minister. Good man, he was obliged to struggle and twist and turn, to make his scanty salary sufficient for the feeding and clothing of his large family, to say nothing about the entertaining of strangers, and if it had not been for an occasional lift from Uncle David, I am sadly afraid the worthy man, would sometimes have been obliged to feed the spiritual natures of his neglectful flock, while a natural craving 'for the meat that perisheth,' was gnawing at his own heart strings.

'Always kind and thoughtful,' Bro. Morris, said the Pastor, as he helped Uncle David deposit a firkin of butter, a tempting cheese, and a couple of hams in the empty larder, 'you seem to anticipate our wants, and take pleasure in supplying them.'

'I am only God's steward,' replied Uncle David, 'and I should be a most ungrateful servant, if I withheld my bounty, when He has blessed me so abundantly.'

Cousin Mary delivered several large parcels from her mother to the ministers' wife and children, and we departed with the warm thanks and blessings of the excellent family singing in our ears.

'I have learned how to make presents, Uncle David,' I said, as we were returning home.

'A very useful item of knowledge, my child,' he replied, 'and every person who has the ability to relieve the unfortunate, would do well to learn the lesson. If half the money usually expended on costly gifts of no utility, was spent in buying the necessities of life for those who are suffering from them, how many dark clouds would be tipped with sunbeams.'

BANGOR.

TEMPERANCE TRACT.

BY T. S. FURTHER.

A young man who felt a good deal of enthusiasm in the temperance cause, procured some tracts for distribution. He had a dozen, and in the ardor of his feelings, he calculated that at least 12 men would be reformed through their agency. Having an idle day to devote to the cause, he started with his dozen tracts in his pocket, his mind somewhat elated in the prospect of the good that was to be done. In walking along the first who came in his way, was a tavern-keeper. 'Here is a good subject,' said Wilton to himself, as the tavern keeper drew near. 'Let me see what I have that will suit him. All this is it. An Appeal to the People on the Liquor Traffic.' And selecting a tract with the above title, he presented it to the tavern keeper as they met, saying as he did so—

'Accept this, if you please.'

Taken by surprise, the man received the tract; and the distributor, bowing, moved on.

'A dead shot for him!' thought he, but the thoughts were scarcely formed ere he felt a hand laid roughly on his shoulder. Turning quickly, he confronted the tavern-keeper, whose face was red with anger.

'What is this?' he demanded, imperatively.

'It is a tract,' replied the young man, looking confused.

'See here, my friend,' and as the tavern keeper spoke he withdrew his hand from his shoulder, 'My first impulse was to pitch you over the fence. On second thought, however, I will let you go unpunished for

vice.—If you wish to keep out of trouble, mind your own business.'

Then crumpling the tract in his hand and tossing it from him contemptuously, he turned away, leaving the young temperance reformer with his enthusiasm in the cause down to zero. While this state of mind was predominant, the balance of the tracts were thrown over a fence, and meeting a gust of wind, were scattered apart, and driven in various directions. The distributor returned home, mortified and discouraged. On reflection, however, he was vexed at himself, both for the bungling manner in which he had proceeded, and for his having been so easily thrown off by a rebuff.

'The tracts needn't have been wasted,' said he, 'that was a folly of which I ought to be heartily ashamed.'

About an hour after this occurrence, a man came walking along the road, near where this little adventure took place. A piece of paper caught his eye, and, stooping, he picked it up. Moving on, as he opened it, he commenced reading, and was soon deeply interested, for he walked slower and slower, and sometimes stopped altogether. This man was also a tavern keeper. After reading the tract through, he placed it in his pocket and continued on his way.

'Stop and think,' said a wife, in an appealing voice to her husband, as the latter was about leaving the house.

'Don't talk to me in that way,' replied the husband impatiently. 'You couldn't act worse if I were a common drunkard.'

'But the danger, John. Stop and think of that! There is a lion in the way.'

'I am out of all patience with you, Alice,' said the man. 'A high respect you have for your husband's good sense and good principles! As if I couldn't enjoy a glass now and then, without being in danger of becoming a miserable sot.'

With this the man turned off, and took his way to the tavern, while his wife went weeping into the house. As he walked along, the words she had uttered—"Stop and think,"—rang in his ears, and he tried to push them from his thoughts in order that he might not think. All at once a fresh blast of wind blew from a field that adjoined the road, a piece of paper, and as it fell at his feet, his eye caught the words—

'STOP AND THINK.'

The coincidence of language startled him for a moment. He took this piece of paper and commenced reading; and as he read, he walked slower and slower. One of Wilton's temperance tracts had fallen into his hands. It was a close appeal to the moderate drinker, and set forth his danger in the fullest manner. At last the man stood still. Then he sat down by the road side, still reading on.

'There is danger,' he at length murmured, folding up the tract as he spoke. Rising, he stood irresolute as to whether he should return home, or keep on his way to the tavern. Had any one thrust the tract into his hand, he would have rejected it; but coming to him as it did, he found his mind prepared to hearken to its appeals. But the love of drink had been formed, and, at the prospect of having its accustomed gratification cut off, began to cry out for indulgence. A combat in the mind of the man was the result; and this was continued until appetite gained the victory so far that he concluded for this time at least, to go to the tavern, but to give up the habit thereafter.

'I hate to turn back after I once start to do a thing,' said he, as he moved on towards the tavern, 'it's bad luck.'

Still the argument for and against any further indulgence, kept going on, and he could not turn his mind away from it.

At length the sign of the 'Punch Bowl,' which he was wending his way, came in view, and the sight affected him with the old pleasure.

In imagination, the refreshing and exhilarating glass was at his lips, and he quickened his pace involuntarily.

As he drew near he saw the landlord sitting on the porch. The good natured old fellow did not smile with the broad smile of welcome, that usually played over his countenance when a customer approached.

'How are you today, landlord?' said the man cheerfully, as he stepped upon the porch.

'Do you know the road you come?' asked the landlord, with a gravity of manner that surprised his customer.

'Yes,' replied the man, 'I've come the road to the Punch Bowl.'

'Better say the road to ruin,' returned the landlord.

'What is the matter?' inquired the man.

'I never heard a landlord talk that way before.' 'It was the road to ruin to poor Bill Jenkins. That I know too well, and has been the road to ruin of a good many more that I don't like to think about. It will be your road to ruin if you keep so; so I would advise you to stop and think a little on the matter. If you want any liquor you can get it of Jim, at the bar; but I had rather not have your sixpence in my till to-day. I won't feel right about it.'

'What's the matter, landlord? What has put you in this humor?' said the man, who, in turn, became serious.

'I found a piece of paper on the road as I walked out just now, and something was printed on it that has set me to thinking.—That's the matter, Ah! me, I wish I was in a better business. It does not make a man feel very pleasant to think that in building himself up he has dragged others down; and I am afraid that is my position. So go home, my friend, and don't let the sin of your ruin be on my conscience. You have got to loving liquor too well. May be you don't think so; but I know it. I have seen a great many go down hill, and I can tell the first steps. You have taken them.—Stop and think before you go any further.'

'Look here, landlord,' said the man, after standing thoughtful for a few minutes, 'I will make a bargain with you.'

'Very well—what about?'

'If you will quit selling, I will quit drinking.'

The landlord did not answer for some minutes, but sat with his eyes upon the floor. At length, rising up slowly, he extended his hand to his customer, and grasping it firmly, said—

'Agreed! it's a bargain.'

A hearty shake sealed the bargain.

An hour afterwards those who went by the 'Punch Bowl' saw the bar closed. And in less than an hour afterwards, the sad hearted wife, who had seen her husband walking the road to ruin, saw him return, as sober as when he left, and heard with gladness, his promise never again to put the cup of confusion to his lips.

Thus it is that truth scattered in the fields and by the road side, finds its way into the minds of men, and does its work on their

efforts are often overruled by Providence, to the accomplishment of the greatest good.

STEEL PENS.

Mr. Gillott, of Birmingham, who has done so much to improve it, considers the manufacture to be yet in its infancy. The first operations are performed by steam power. The sheets of steel, after they are received from Sheffield, are reduced to the requisite tenacity by successive transits thro' the rolling mill—operations which are tended by men and boys. When reduced in this manner to the thinness of a steel pen, and the length of about two feet, and three inches, the sheets of steel are ready for the next processes, which are entirely performed by women and girls. Describing the rooms according to the order of the processes, and not according to the arrangement of the building, the first to be entered is that where the 'blanks' are punched out. Ranged in double rows along a large and roomy workshop, with windows at both sides, and scrupulously white and clean in floor, roof, and walls, are seated from fifty to a hundred girls and women, from the age of fourteen to that of forty and upwards. The only sounds to be heard are the working of the hand-press, and the clinking of the small pieces of metal as they fall from the block into the receptacle prepared for them. This process is performed with great rapidity, one girl, of average industry and dexterity, being able to punch out about a hundred gross per day. Each division of the workshop is superintended by a tool maker, whose business it is to keep the punches and presses in good working order, superintend the work generally, and keep order among the people.

The next operation is to place the blank in a concave die, on which a slight touch from a concave punch produces the requisite shape—that of the semi-tube. The slits and apertures, which increase the elasticity of the pen, and the maker's or vendor's name or mark, are produced by a similar tool. The last operation is that of slitting, which is also performed by girls and women. Previously to this, however, the pen undergoes a variety of processes in a different part of the factory, and under the hands of a different class of workpeople.

When complete all but the slit, the pen is soft and pliable, and may bent or twisted in the hand like a piece of thin lead. Being collected in 'grosses' or 'great grosses'—the former containing 144, and the great gross twelve times that number—the pens are thrown into little iron square boxes by men who perform all the work in this department, and they are placed in a furnace, where they remain till the box and pens are of a white heat. They are then taken out, and thrown hissing hot into pails or tanks of oil—a process which cures them of their softness by making them brittle.—When taken out of the oil, they may be broken by the fingers with as much ease as if they were so many wafers. As a great deal of oil adheres to them, they are put into a sieve to drain. There they remain until no more oil will run from them; but, notwithstanding all the draining which they have received, the oil is not effectually removed. To cleanse them thoroughly, they were formerly thrown into pits or heaps of sawdust, and stirred about; but as, by this process, the sawdust became clogged into oil cakes, and was rendered unserviceable, the ingenuity of Mr. Gillott was taxed to discover some means by which a saving both of oil and sawdust could be effected. He was not long before the thought struck him, that, if the pens were made to revolve rapidly in a perforated cylinder, the last drop of oil might be forced out of them—in fact, that the oil might be twisted from the pens like moisture from a mop.

The experiment was tried and succeeded admirably. The pens, after being allowed to drain in the sieve until no more oil would run off them, were placed, apparently dry, but greasy looking, in the cylinder, but twisted round with great rapidity until the oil ran off in a copious stream. The mingled oil and sawdust formerly constituted a nuisance, and it was necessary to change the sawdust and burn it, three or four times a day. It now lasts for a week. By this means—a remarkable instance of the economy of manufactures—Mr. Gillott has diminished his oil account about £200 to £300 per annum. This operation once completed, the pens are once more placed in revolving cylinders, where their friction against each other produces the necessary polish. Each pen is thus made to clean and polish its neighbor. The next process is to toast or anneal these brittle articles, and give them the flexibility of the quill, and produce upon them, at the same time, the color which may be desired, whether bronze or blue. The flexibility and color are both produced by heat, and it becomes a delicate matter so to arrange and regulate it as to attain the exact result required. From this department they are once more consigned to the female part of the establishment—where by the operation of the cutting tool, each pen receives the required slit. One girl, with a quick and practised finger, can slit by this means as many as 200 gross, or 28,000 in a day. They are now ready for counting and packing in boxes or grosses, for the wholesale market. This last stage of the business is wholly performed by young girls. [Cor. of the Morning Chronicle.]

A TRUE STORY.

The following remarkable story has all the interest of a romance; yet it is true, and the parties are still living: It was in the memorable year 1814, when the allied armies were concentrated about Paris.

A young lieutenant of dragoons was engaged with three or four Hungarians, who after having received several mortal strokes from his sabre, managed to send a ball into his shoulder, to pierce his chest with a thrust from a lance, and to leave him for dead on the bank of the river.

On the opposite side of the stream, a boatman and his daughter had been watching this unequal fight with tears of desperation. But what could an old unarmed man do, or a pretty child of sixteen? However, the old soldier—for such the boatman was—had no sooner seen the officer fall from his horse than he and his daughter rowed most vigorously for the other side.

Then, when they had deposited the wounded man in their boat, these worthy people crossed the river again, but with faint hopes of reaching the military hospital in time.

'You have been very hardly treated, but here am I, who have gone further still, and come home.'

The silence and the fixed attitude of Lieutenant S.—showed the extreme agony of his pains, and the hardy boatman soon discovered that the blood which was gathering about the wound on his left side would shortly terminate his existence. He turned to his youthful daughter:

'Mary,' he said, 'you have heard me tell of my brother; he died of just such another wound as this. Well, now, had there only been somebody by to suck the hurt, his life would have been saved.'

The boatman then landed, and went to look for two or three soldiers to help him carry the officer, leaving his daughter in charge of him. The girl looked at the sufferer for a second or two. What was her emotion when she heard him sigh so deeply, not that he was resigning life in the first flower of his age, but that he should die without a mother's kiss.

'My mother! my dear, dear mother!' said he, 'I die without—'

Her woman's heart told her what he would have said. Her bosom heaved with sympathy, and her eyes ran over.

Then she remembered what her father had said—she thought how her uncle's life might have been saved. In an instant, quicker than thought, she tore open the officer's coat, and the generous girl recalled him, to life with her lips.

Amid this holy occupation the sound of footsteps was heard, and the blushing heroine fled to the other end of the boat.—Judge of her father's surprise, as he came up with two soldiers, when he saw Lieut. S.—whom he expected to find dead, open his eyes and ask for his deliverer.

The boatman looked at his child, and saw it all. The poor girl came to him with her head bent down. She was about to excuse herself, when the father, embracing her with enthusiasm, raised her spirits, and the officer thanked her in these prophetic words:

'You have saved my life; it belongs to you.'

After this she tended him, and became his nurse; nothing would he take but from her hand. No wonder that with such a nurse he at length recovered. Mary was as pretty as she was good.

Meanwhile, Master Cupid, who is very busy in such cases, gave him another wound; and there was only one way to cure it—so deep it was.

The boatman's daughter became Madame S.—

Her husband is now, not a simple lieutenant, but a lieutenant-general, and the boatman's daughter is as elegant and graceful a lady as any that you see at court.

CAUGHT IN HIS OWN TRAP.

A girl, young and pretty, but above all gifted with an air of adorable candor, lately presented herself before a certain Parisian lawyer, (we translate the incident from the French journals for benefit of our home-made attorneys,) and thus addressed him:

'Monsieur, I come to consult you upon a grave affair. I want to oblige the man I love, to marry me in spite of himself. How shall I proceed?'

The gentleman of the bar had of course a sufficiently elastic conscience. He reflected a moment; then, being sure that no third person overheard him, replied unhesitatingly.

'Mademoiselle, according to our law you already possess the means of forcing a man to marry you. You must remain on three occasions alone with him: then you can swear before a judge that he is your lover.'

'And that will suffice, Monsieur?'

'Yes, Mademoiselle, with one further condition.'

'Well?—'

'That you will produce witnesses who will make oath to their having seen you remain a good quarter of an hour with the individual said to have trifled with your affections.'

'Very well, Monsieur. I will call upon you as counsel in the management of this affair. Good day.'

A few days afterwards the young girl returned. She is mysteriously received by the lawyer, who, scarcely giving her time to set herself, questions her with the most lively curiosity.

'Well, Mademoiselle, how do matters prosper?'

'Oh! all goes on swimmingly. I have passed a half hour with my intended. I have been seen to go up stairs and come down again. I have four witnesses who will affirm to this under oath.'

'Capital! capital! Persevere in your design; Mademoiselle; but mind, the next time you consult me you must tell me the name of the young man we are going to render happy in spite of himself.'

'A fortnight afterwards, the young person, more naïve and candid than ever, knocked discreetly at the door of her counsel's room. No sooner was she within, than she flung herself hastily into a chair, saying that she had mounted the stairs too rapidly, and that emotion made her breathless. Her counsel endeavored to reassure her; and made her inhale salts, and even proposed to unlace her garments.

'It is useless, Monsieur,' said she, 'I am much better.'

'Well, now do tell me the name of the fortunate mortal you are going to espouse.'

'Are you very impatient to know?'

'Exceedingly so.'

'Well, then, the fortunate mortal, he is known to you, is—yourself!'

'I love you! I have been three times telegraphic with you, and my four witnesses are below, ready and willing to accompany us to the magistrate,' gravely continued the narrator.

The lawyer, thus fairly caught, had the good sense not to get angry. The most singular fact of all is, that he adores his young wife, who by the way, makes an excellent housekeeper.

HEALTH.

TAKE CARE OF THE FEET.—We alluded not long since, in some remarks, to the evil consequences arising from wet feet. That both health and comfort are promoted by keeping the feet dry and warm is a matter of experience; and that the opposite is productive of colds, bronchitis, and other disorders of the chest, can not be questioned. The following excellent remarks of Dr. Robertson on the subject confirmatory of our views are here reprinted.

'You have been very hardly treated, but here am I, who have gone further still, and come home.'

The silence and the fixed attitude of Lieutenant S.—showed the extreme agony of his pains, and the hardy boatman soon discovered that the blood which was gathering about the wound on his left side would shortly terminate his existence. He turned to his youthful daughter:

'Mary,' he said, 'you have heard me tell of my brother; he died of just such another wound as this. Well, now, had there only been somebody by to suck the hurt, his life would have been saved.'

The boatman then landed, and went to look for two or three soldiers to help him carry the officer, leaving his daughter in charge of him. The girl looked at the sufferer for a second or two. What was her emotion when she heard him sigh so deeply, not that he was resigning life in the first flower of his age, but that he should die without a mother's kiss.

'My mother! my dear, dear mother!' said he, 'I die without—'

Her woman's heart told her what he would have said. Her bosom heaved with sympathy, and her eyes ran over.

Then she remembered what her father had said—she thought how her uncle's life might have been saved. In an instant, quicker than thought, she tore open the officer's coat, and the generous girl recalled him, to life with her lips.

Amid this holy occupation the sound of footsteps was heard, and the blushing heroine fled to the other end of the boat.—Judge of her father's surprise, as he came up with two soldiers, when he saw Lieut. S.—whom he expected to find dead, open his eyes and ask for his deliverer.

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